

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 7 and 13 as indicated below.

1. (Currently amended) A device configured to provide information to a pulse oximetry monitor, said device comprising an information generator configured to simulate information expected by the pulse oximetry monitor, wherein the simulated information is provided to the pulse oximetry monitor on a ~~first signal path in common with a second signal path~~ connectable to a monitor output lead used for communicating a driving signal from the pulse oximetry monitor.

2. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the device is a sensor.

3. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the device is an adapter configured to interconnect the pulse oximetry monitor with a sensor.

4. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the device is a cable configured to provide an interconnection between the pulse oximetry monitor and a sensor.

5. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the simulated information indicates a sensor type to the pulse oximetry monitor.

6. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the simulated information indicates an operating wavelength.

7. (Currently amended) A device configured to provide information to a pulse oximetry monitor, said device comprising an information generator configured to simulate information expected by the pulse oximetry monitor, wherein the simulated information is provided to the pulse oximetry monitor on a ~~first signal line in common with a second signal line~~ monitor lead that is also used for communicating an intensity signal to the pulse oximetry monitor.

8. (Original) The device of Claim 7, wherein the device is a sensor adapter.

9. (Original) The device of Claim 7, wherein the device is a combination of a sensor and an adapter.

10. (Original) The device of Claim 7, wherein the device is a connector.

11. (Original) The device of Claim 7, wherein the simulated information conveys a characteristic of a sensor.

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12. (Original) The device of Claim 7, wherein the simulated information indicates source of a sensor.

13. (Currently amended) A method of communicating expected information regarding a sensor to an oximeter monitor, the method comprising:

simulating the expected information; and

providing the expected information to the oximeter monitor on a ~~first~~ signal line ~~in common with a second signal line~~ connected to a monitor lead that is also usable for making measurements.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein the expected information relates to a sensor type which is compatible with the oximeter monitor.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein the sensor lacks the expected information.

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SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Winakur for the telephonic interview extended to Applicants' counsel of record, Sharon S. Ng, on May 16, 2005 to discuss the February 23, 2005 Office Action. During the interview, Claim 1 was discussed with respect to rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,287,853 to Vester et al. ("the Vester patent").

The language of Claim 1 was discussed with reference to Figure 13 of the application. Figure 13 shows a pulse oximetry monitor 150, an information generator 458 and a sensor 100. The pulse oximetry monitor 150 has output leads 156, 158 which are connected to the sensor 100 and are used for communicating a driving signal from the pulse oximetry monitor 150 to the sensor 100. The information generator 458 simulates information expected by the pulse oximetry monitor 150 and the simulated information is provided to the pulse oximetry monitor 150 on a signal path coupled to the output lead 156.

It was discussed that the Vester patent discloses different monitor leads and associated signal lines for transmitting driving signals from a monitor to a sensor and for receiving information such as sensor type and operating wavelength. It was agreed that Applicants will clarify the difference between the claimed inventions and the cited reference in the written response to the Office Action.